GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:62
ANSWERED ON:05.03.2002
INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY FACILITIES IN COLLEGES
BODAKUNTI VENKATESHWARLU;DUMPA MARY VIJAYAKUMARI

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of universities and colleges have no information and communication technology facilities for teaching and training purposes;

(b) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to provide such facilities in educational institutions throughout the country;

(c) whether special funds are proposed to be allocated to States to start information technology education; and

(d) if so, the details in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINIS OCEAN DEVELOPMENT(DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI)

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENTREFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF THELOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.62 DATE 5.3.2002 REGARDING INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY FACILITIES IN COLLEGES

(a) to (d): There are 273 university level institutions (as on 15.11.2001) in the country, most of which are funded by State Governments and are under their administrative and management control. The responsibilities for developing infrastructure facilities including information and communication technology (ICT)primarily devolves on them. However, in order to supplement their resources and to expand the programme, Government of India, through the University Grants Commission, is providing financial assistance to eligible universities, colleges and central universities. This assistance has been given to 134 universities for establishment of computer centres and 3569 colleges for creating computer facilities. The Commissionhas also provided resources to them for upgradation/modernization of existing computer centres in the universities and grants for procuring personal computers. Through the introduction of courses like Master of Computer Application (MCA) and Masterof Science (M.Sc.), the education structure is being strengthened in the university structure. Under the Tenth Plan, it is proposed to strengthen ICT infrastructure in colleges, provide training to the teachers and administrative staff in institutions of higher education and develop infrastructure and human resources in hardware and software aspects.

Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU)and State Open Universities also have ICT facilities for teaching and training. IGNOU is funding the open universities for developing ICTintervention for education. Education and ResearchNetwork (ERNET)India, an organization of Government of India, is also providing connectivity and other value added Services to 250 educational institutions across the country. Under the Gyan Vahini Project, upgradation of ITinfrastructure in the institutions of higher learning is being planned.